[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

takes place subsequent to that date and therefore usually there is an intervening period during which there will be no member in his place. The Bill is intended to rectify this defect in the existing Act and to make it possible for the member to continue till another member is elected in his place.

The Secretary read the short title of the Bill.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that standing order No. 34 be suspended and that the Bill be taken into consideration.

Standing order No. 34 was suspended.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I move that the Bill be passed.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

The question that the Bill may be passed was put and carried.

THE TRAVANCORE REGISTRATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I beg to introduce the Travancore Registration Act (Amendment) Bill and I move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: The Bill is intended to make an amendment in Section 12 of the Registration Act. Under Section 12 of the Registration Act, the Registering Officer is bound to refuse registration of a document unless it is in Malayalam or Tamil. The Amendment seeks to provide that if the Registrar understands the language in which the document is written, he can register the document. He is bound to refuse a document only if it is in a language which he does not understand. I may also mention that this is in conformity with the British Indian Act.

MR. C. S. LEKSHMANA AIYAR: I oppose the introduction of the Bill for this reason. What is sought by the amendment is that whatever may be the language in which a document is written, that document may be registered provided the Sub-Registrar understands that language. Under the existing law a document has to be accompanied by a Malayalam translation, if it is prepared in any other language. The production of the translation serves several purposes. These documents particularly those which are registered and copied in volumes I & II are documents of which copies may be taken. It may be that the Sub-Registrar understands Hindi and therefore he may register a document written in Hindi. If after some time anybody wants to know the contents of it he has to take a copy of it and get it translated. I think therefore that the Law as it stands is after all more acceptable than it would be as amended. What is needed at present is that a true translation in Malayalam should be produced whenever a document is brought for registration if written in a language not understood ordinarily by the people of Travancore.

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MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI: I oppose the Bill and associate myself with the opinion of my honourable friend Mr. C. S. Lakshmana Aiyar. The registration of documents is primarily resorted to when land or property has to be sold. The registered document vests the right to the purchaser. Supposing there is a Hindi knowing Sub Registrar. A man thinks of registering his document in Hindi. He gets his document registered and leaves it. After 20 years that property has to be bought by somebody else who does not know Hindi.

PRESIDENT: I can shorten discussion in this matter. I see what is exactly passing through the minds of the honourable members. The present difficulty has arisen in the case of certain elaborate English documents for which some times Malayalam translations may or may not give full purport. The object of Government is only to see that Malayalam, Tamil or English translations should be registered. If this is the sense of this House, I think the House may consent to the Bill being adjourned and proper limitations brought forward.

Mr. P. S. Nataraja Pillai and Mr. C. S. Lakshmana Aiyar accepted this decision. The House gave its assent to the proposal.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Under Section 64 (1).....

PRESIDENT: You may take time to consider this. The matter will be considered by the Law Officers of Government and if they think that the whole object can be achieved by the rules, it will be alright. Otherwise they will bring forward the amendment.

The proposal was put to the House and carried.

THE TRAVANCORE DEBT RELIEF ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: I beg to introduce the Travancore Debt Relief Act (Amendment) Bill and move that the Bill be read in the Assembly.

MR. S. NARAYANA AIYAR: I second it.

PRESIDENT: I understand, Mr. Legal Remembrancer, that there are certain objections raised and that these objections have not been considered by Government. If the Legal Remembrancer has no objection, I think he may bring this Bill at the next meeting.

The proposal was put to the House and carried.

MOTION *RE*: BUNCHY TOP DISEASE OF BANANAS IN THE STATE.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: I beg to move the following motion. "That the situation in regard to the Bunchy Top disease of the Bananas in the State and the necessary measures to be taken to prevent it be considered."

Sir, it was in the year 1943 that a disease known as 'Bunchy Top" was noticed among plantains in the Kottayam taluk. Unfortunately, I should say, most unfortunately, the disease had been imported into

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